



# Department of Energy

Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550  
Richland, Washington 99352

JAN 25 1991

91-WOB-033

Mr. Timothy L. Nord  
Hanford Project Manager  
State of Washington  
Department of Ecology  
Mail Stop PV-11  
Olympia, Washington 98504-8711

Dear Mr. Nord:

## ADDITION OF NORMAL PARAFFIN HYDROCARBONS TO HEXONE TANKS

In accordance with a meeting on November 16, 1990, between Mr. T. M. Michelena of your staff and Messrs. B. G. Erlandson and P. J. Crane of the Westinghouse Hanford Company (WHC), up to 200 gallons of normal paraffin hydrocarbons (NPH) may be added to the 276-S-141 and 276-S-142 Hexone Tanks to support waste removal activities at the facility.

As you know, the U.S. Department of Energy-Richland Operations Office and WHC have been working to remove and distill the contents of the two tanks to support final closure of the facility. Waste removal and distillation efforts at the hexone tanks are nearing completion at this time. Less than 500 gallons of material remain in the tanks; however, because of the high concentration of impurities in the remaining material, waste pumping and distillation efforts have become difficult and inefficient.

It was agreed that NPH would be added to the tank contents to bring the remaining organic waste materials into solution. This will produce a waste form that can be more efficiently pumped and distilled making it possible to further reduce the amount of organic waste that will remain in the tanks and minimize the explosion potential of the tanks until final closure.

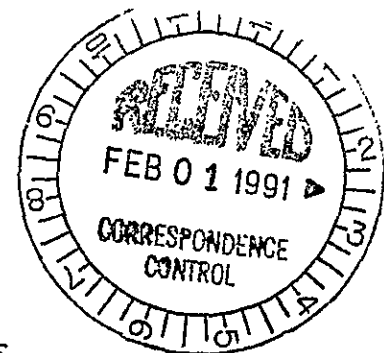
If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Mr. Erlandson, WHC, on (509) 376-5969.

Sincerely,

R. D. Izatt, Director  
Environmental Restoration Division  
Richland Operations Office

R. E. Lerch, Manager  
Environmental Division  
Westinghouse Hanford Company

cc: P. T. Day, EPA  
R. E. Lerch, WHC



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**Author**

P. J. Crane, 6-0765

**Addressee**

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**Correspondence No.**

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